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1992

Minutes Of The Budget Review Committee

March 23, 1992

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URBAN MUNICIPAL
MAR 25 1992
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE
1992 03 23

Present: Trustees Lowe (Chairman Pro-Tem); Allen, Bishop, Darby, Desmarais, Johnston, Mason, Mulholland, Orban, Paquin, Rodgerson, Stewart, Wilson and Cunningham.

Not Present: Trustees Hicks, Hill, Korz, Patenaude and Rogers.

Officials Present:
K. Rielly, Director of Education and Secretary
A. Stockwell, Associate Director of Education
P. Shewfelt, Superintendent of Finance and Treasurer
B. Sinclair, Superintendent of Human Resources
R. Orlando, Superintendent of Plant
G. Rutledge, Controller
S. Rogers, Assistant to the Secretary

In Mrs. Hill's absence, Mr. Rielly called the meeting to order and asked for nominations for Chairman Pro-Tem.

Moved by Miss Cunningham:

That Mrs. Lowe be appointed Chairman Pro-Tem. **CARRIED.**

Mrs. Lowe assumed the Chair and asked for confirmation of the minutes.

Moved by Dr. Johnston:

That the minutes of the 1991 11 27, 1992 12 04, 1991 12 12 and 1991 12 18 meetings be approved as presented. **CARRIED.**

Interim Report on the Development of the 1992 Budget
Introduction

Mr. Rielly recalled the December, 1991 Budget Review Committee meetings in which trustees targeted areas for reduction with the assistance of impact statements. A budget planning document was developed through consensus to reduce the Proforma Budget and fulfil the 6% mandate, as well as responding to the Premier's 1992 01 21 announcement that Schools Boards would receive an increase of 1% for 1992 - 1993 and 2% for each of the following two years. He recalled concerns raised by Chairman Cunningham about the impact on the local taxpayer at a 1992 02 12 meeting with the Minister of Education. Acknowledging the difficulty of reaching this mandate, Mr. Rielly advised that a reduction of $20 million had been achieved. Throughout this process the officials have worked with all employee groups to reduce the operating budget. Noting that the package of information prepared for the 1992 03 10 Budget Review Committee meeting indicated a 6.42% reduction, Mr. Rielly remarked that officials have continued to make reductions to achieve the 6% levy as mandated by the Board. In closing, he briefly noted that the Finance Department is presently calculating grant information.

Current Summary of Proposed Expenditures

Mr. Shewfelt reviewed the 1992 Budget Estimates line by line, concentrating on three columns: 1991 Approved Budget - 1992 Revised Estimates - Increase/Decrease over 1991 Approved Budget. Based on the 1992 Original Estimates, a $20 million reduction has resulted in Revised Expenditure Estimates of $278,317,107 for a $12,437,213 or 4.68% increase over last year. If calculations relative to Revenue remain unaltered, a 6% increase or $53.30 on the levy would be assessed on the Average $5,000 home, thereby achieving the mandate as set by the Board.

Explaining that the Board was experiencing a major change in its assessment base, Mr. Shewfelt indicated that, based on Ministry definition of a "less affluent Board", it would

appear that our grants should exceed one percent. While our residential assessment base has a net gain of $9 - 10 million after a $2 million transfer to the Hamilton-Wentworth Roman Catholic Separate School Board, our industrial and commercial assessment base has experienced a loss of $11 million. As result of pooling, an additional $7 million will be lost this year. Combined, these factors result in a tax base decrease of $18 million. Mr. Shewfelt stated that, in the third year of pooling, our overall loss for the three-year period will approach $22 million.

Update on the General Legislative Grants

Mr. Shewfelt provided the following grant information, at the provincial level, as a result of a Ministry meeting on 1992 03 13:

a) all programs have been maintained, including de-streaming
b) there will be no new initiatives
c) grant ceilings have been increased
d) grants have been increased for Compensatory Education and declining enrolment
e) grants have been frozen for: French As A First Language, French Immersion, new initiatives such as full day Kindergarten, Technological Studies, Continuing Education, Summer School at the secondary level, Heritage Language Classes and Transportation. Mr. Shewfelt added that last year the reduction in Transportation grants included a guarantee that Boards would not lose more than 90% of their previous year's grants; this year that guarantee has been removed.

Relative to specific grant calculations, Mr. Shewfelt remarked that these are nearing completion and it is anticipated that, following verification, the Budget Book will be printed and delivered to trustees on Friday, 1992 03 27.

Mr. Shewfelt concluded his presentation by referring to the Ministry News Release distributed to trustees and highlighted the last three paragraphs on page one and the second paragraph on page two (attached). Stating no other information was presently available, Mr. Shewfelt made the personal observation that adjusting the grant fiscal year to coincide with the school year could have horrendous results because of the conversion time line of September, 1993.

Noting it had not been an easy task, Mrs. Lowe commended all of the officials on a valiant struggle to remove $20 million from the budget.

In response to Miss Cunningham's question relative to the Minister's comments about a $160 million fund, Mr. Shewfelt speculated that this money was available at the provincial level to be accessed by the various Ministries based on need and severity of revenue implications. He could not estimate what amount might be allocated to the Ministry of Education, nor whether it could be accessed by our Board.

He confirmed for Miss Cunningham that the 1991 Approved Budget figures, both expenditures and revenue, are not actuals, but the amounts that had been approved by Board.

Ms. Orban queried the criteria used to determine that this Board is "less affluent" as it was her understanding that the Minister used the example of Northern Boards that have less access to specialized services and must buy those services.

Mr. Shewfelt agreed that the Ministry makes funds available for those Boards that have problems providing programming similar to southern Boards; however, in addition, the Ministry provides additional funds when a Board is deemed to be less affluent, and he considered this Board would qualify for the reasons he explained earlier.

When Mrs. Mason asked Mr. Shewfelt to comment on implications arising from the Ministry's change in the school board fiscal year, Mr. Shewfelt cautioned that this has not been finalized. In terms of the year end, he was supportive of the financial year and school year

being on the same basis, but he admitted surprise at the implementation date of 1993 09 01. He speculated that a budget would be required with implications relative to a) Budget meetings in July and August or September through November after the year has begun (which he opposed) and, b) the impact on the local taxpayer of grant announcements when the Ministry's fiscal year begins 1992 04 01. He believed further clarification was needed and he was greatly concerned about the Board's information systems in relation to the 1993 09 01 school board fiscal year target date.

Mr. Mulholland expressed disappointment in the lack of any proposed revenue strategies compared to continual reductions in this, and previous, budgets. He raised the following three areas in which the Board could take advantage of Ministry grants for increased revenue:
a) As the Ministry calculates grants based on enrolment on three dates throughout the year (September 30th, January 31st and April 30th), Mr. Mulholland urged that the second semester start on January 31st. Enrolment drops throughout the semester and the Board would gain more grants through increased enrolment at the start of the semester than at the present, with January 31st reflecting the end of a semester.
b) Mr. Mulholland suggested that half credits, if pursued this year for the April grant date, could result in $500,000 increased revenue for this Board.
c) Reduce the amount of jobs contracted out when staff have the necessary qualifications. He was concerned that it was necessary for trustees to bring such suggestions forward.

Stating that tonight's meeting was a pre-budget meeting to provide an update on budget preparation, Mr. Rielly remarked that officials are not ready to give the trustees all the information until the 1992 03 30 meeting. He was appreciative of Mr. Mulholland's suggestions relative to grants and said officials were pursuing such possibilities. Relative to moving the second semester forward to January 31st he said the officials were endeavouring to ensure the number of days in the first and second semester balanced. In reference to contracting out, Mr. Rielly noted the Board contracts out to save money and it is a direction with which trustees have agreed.

Mr. Mulholland expressed difficulty in understanding why the officials had not implemented these types of creative management initiatives last September as part of long term planning. He urged their implementation this year.

When Mr. Rielly suggested that the officials have been creative "to the tune of $20 million", Mr. Mulholland pointed out that proposed spending exceeds that of last year's.

Moved by Mr. Stewart:

That the Interim Report on the Development of the 1992 Budget be received for information. **CARRIED.**

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed,

.....
Chairman

cv

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News release Communiqué

Communications and Marketing Branch
Queen's Park, Mowat Block, 14th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2

Direction des communications et du marketing
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EDUCATION MINISTER ANNOUNCES GRANTS TO SCHOOL BOARDS

No. 92-07

Mar. 12, 1992
For immediate release

Education Minister Tony Silipo today announced the general legislative grants (GLG) to school boards. This is the formula whereby boards can determine how much money they will receive from the ministry in grants.

The total amount of money the ministry will provide this year in operating grants to boards is $4.923 billion.

"While the Treasurer's announcement restricted overall transfer payments to school boards to a one per cent increase, today's GLG announcement will moderate the impact of this small increase on the less affluent school boards," said Mr. Silipo.

"It has become apparent to me that, given the current economic reality, we must move ahead as quickly as possible with a more equitable system of funding education. I want to be able to take recommendations for education finance reform to Cabinet by early 1993, so that implementation could begin in September of 1993."

At today's meeting, Mr. Silipo also said that he would look at adjusting the school board fiscal year so that, beginning September 1993, it would coincide with the school year.

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"School boards have suggested this change would make it easier for them to plan and manage their budgets," said Mr. Silipo. "They say it would also make it easier to explain their budgets to tax-payers."

In addition, Mr. Silipo said he is asking school boards to set up joint committees to recommend ways of reducing costs common to boards.

Today's announcements were made during a meeting at Queen's Park with representatives of many education interest groups... the same people he met with on Jan. 21st when the Treasurer announced the one per cent increase in the government's major transfer payments. Mr. Silipo had promised then that he would report back to the group after his regional meetings.

During February, Mr. Silipo travelled throughout the province meeting with representatives of education communities in all regions. He met with more than 4,000 people, including trustees, school board officials, parents, teachers, and students.

"I've learned a great deal about the local concerns and issues in education," he said. "I've also heard some good common sense ideas for managing better with limited resources.

"Great difficulties remain before us all, but I hope the success of these meetings will signal a beginning of renewed and healthy partnerships for those concerned about education in every region of Ontario.

"I think the kind of feedback I received indicates that among most partners in education there is the will and the ability to manage fairly and to provide services equitably. There is also the ability to work together to bring about necessary changes in education even during these difficult economic times. I believe that with our mutual commitment to excellence, we can provide quality education for all our students."

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MINUTES OF THE BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE 1992 04 08

Present: Trustees S. Hill (Chairman); Allen, Bishop, Darby, Desmarais, Hicks, Johnston, Korz, Lowe, Mason, Mulholland, Orban, Patenaude, Rodgerson, Rogers, Stewart, Wilson and Cunningham.

Not Present: Trustee Paquin.

Officials Present:
K. Rielly, Director of Education and Secretary
A. Stockwell, Associate Director of Education
P. Shewfelt, Superintendent of Finance and Treasurer
E. Bond, Superintendent of Program
B. Sinclair, Superintendent of Human Resources
R. Orlando, Superintendent of Plant
R. Kawai, Superintendent of Information Management Services
M. Quinn, Superintendent of Schools - Area 1
N. Nicholls, Superintendent of Schools - Area 2
P. Gillie, Superintendent of Schools - Area 4
R. Lavoie, Superintendent of Schools - French as a First Language
G. Rutledge, Controller
S. Rogers, Assistant to the Secretary

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GENERAL

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

Enrolment of Adults in Day School Classes in Secondary Schools

Mr. Stockwell explained that in an attempt to effect a reduction in secondary school staffing, Adult Education was examined closely as it is not controlled by Component Staffing.

Referring to the Adult Education presentation made to the 1992 04 07 Operations Management Committee meeting, Mrs. Lowe spoke of the Board's obligation to credit students. While she acknowledged there was a need to "tighten up" the program, she opposed cutting 22 of the 33 teachers with segregated classes. In placing a motion on the floor, she admitted that it would increase the budget by approximately $200,000.

Moved by Mrs. Lowe:

That 11 Adult Education secondary teachers be added back into the budget.

Mrs. Bishop, in supporting the motion, read a letter from a concerned senior citizen about Adult Education. Mr. Stockwell confirmed for Mrs. Bishop that we do have adults in vocational schools and it may mean they will have to be moved to a composite secondary school or the nature of the vocational school offering may have to be changed.

In response to Dr. Johnston, Mr. Stockwell was unable to provide the breakdown of the number of adult students seeking diplomas or attempting to upgrade, although he believed it was a significant number. He cautioned that the program may not be able to accommodate all of these students.

Noting that if one-third of the teachers were cut, Mr. Darby expressed the hope that more than two-thirds of these students could be accommodated through larger class sizes and general tightening up.

Mr. Stockwell stated that "in-filling" into regular classes is done as much as possible, but there is limited opportunity due to the Component Staffing model, adding there are often additional spaces available in the second semester due to drop-outs. He believed more than two-thirds of the students could be accommodated.

Believing there was never any intent of not having every adult student possible in the programs available, Miss Cunningham spoke against hiring staff before staffing requirements are known.

When Ms. Orban asked if there was an expectation adults would be able to enrol in a course of their choice, Mr. Stockwell replied that with staffing restraints, this could not be guaranteed. However, he stressed that the officials have the option of indicating to trustees that there is an additional need for teachers if there is an influx of students beyond the staffing formula.

In order to be cost effective, it was

Moved in amendment by Ms. Orban:

That the Board be empowered to hire on a need basis.

Mr. Korz challenged the Chair's acceptance of this motion on the basis that this is normal procedure and part of the Operating Procedures.

The challenge was put to a vote and was **CARRIED.** The amendment was not accepted.

Mr. Mulholland stated that it was his understanding that any adult working towards a credit diploma would be accommodated. When he asked for verification about staffing in the budget book for adults, Mr. Stockwell replied that there is an estimate for the equivalent of one teacher for segregated class purposes in each composite secondary school, plus staffing for adults in vocational schools.

When Mr. Mulholland asked whether every adult on the waiting list after 1992 03 24 and taking a credit course will be accommodated through integration or at a class in another school, Mr. Stockwell stated that following the conclusion of the budget, adults will be accommodated to the limit of staffing available, at which point officials will have to come back for additional staff to accommodate the remaining students. Under further questioning, Mr. Stockwell said it was his hope and direction that all adults working towards graduation diplomas or upgrading specific work skills could be accommodated, however he could not promise the same direction for programs of a recreational nature.

Referring to earlier discussions, Mr. Mulholland recalled that adults that had option sheets submitted prior to 1992 03 24 were to be guaranteed a position.

Stating that the budget is an exercise in planning, Mr. Desmarais indicated his understanding that teachers will be hired as necessary to accommodate adult students.

When Mrs. Mason asked about an estimate of teachers needed to accommodate adult students taking two courses (at whatever location possible), Mr. Stockwell advised all adult students total 204 classes in the current year, or the equivalent of 34 teachers.

Mr. Stockwell indicated adults could be handled as indicated by Mr. Mulholland without any difficulty, but he could not guarantee a savings of 22 teachers.

Mr. Allen deemed this discussion to be at a business management level rather than an educational level and urged trustees to proceed with caution in these difficult fiscal times. Arguing that hiring can take place after adults enrol and the numbers are known, Mr. Allen opposed the motion.

When Mrs. Hill asked about past practice with respect to adults, Mr. Stockwell recounted that programs were not established until there were sufficient numbers. If classes were full, students were referred to other schools, or if there were sufficient numbers, the principal would inquire through their Superintendent about additional staff.

While Mr. Darby discerned that the majority of the trustees were in favour of Adult Education, he questioned whether there was flexibility in Line 1 of the budget, if approved tonight, to accommodate the additional 11 teachers that may be required in September.

When Mrs. Hill confirmed this amount was not included within Lines 1 and 2, Mr. Darby suggested incorporating the amount in the budget but not hiring the teachers until needed.

Indicating that she had been attempting to be practical with her motion, Mrs. Lowe voiced her difficulty with a recommendation to cut 22 teachers and then replacing 18 of them within a few months.

Stating he believed the intent was to ensure adult students will be taken care of, Mr. Stewart closed debate by calling the question.

The question was put to a vote and **CARRIED.**

Mrs. Hill, after verifying the figure with Mr. Shewfelt, called for a vote on the motion as read:

That 11 Adult Education secondary teachers be added back into the budget, Line 1, $257,000. **CARRIED.**

Using the example of the recent increase in teachers for the English As A Second Language program, Mr. Mulholland emphasized that the present hiring practice is that any requests for teachers are presented to the Personnel & Organization Committee and are based on student numbers.

Mrs. Mason then suggested that adults be required to take at least two courses for grant purposes.

Temporary Assistance

In response to questions from a previous meeting, Mr. Orlando explained that the expenditures on page 80, lines 070 represent the cost of hiring 10 students for a 10-week period during the Summer (mainly grass cutting and carpet cleaning). Similarly the expenditure of $61,000 on line 075 is student employment, primarily in the Maintenance Department and clerical assistance associated with the Asbestos Response Team. In answer to questions about the process for employing students, Mr. Orlando stated that sufficient students apply for Summer employment at the Board and are screened for past experience in these areas.

Current Status of the 1992 Estimates

Miss Cunningham commented that she hoped consideration would be given to additional secretarial staff if there is a large increase of adults in schools.

Mr. Shewfelt indicated that the mill rate had been reduced to 4.68% from 5.46%, following much deliberation. However, this figure does not include any changes arising from tonight's decisions.

Mr. Stockwell clarified for Mrs. Mason that the grant allocation received for adults taking two courses is the same grant rate received for a regular student allocation. It was further clarified that the revenue side of the budget would increase.

When Mr. Hicks asked about the procedure, i.e. whether to consider other recommendations such as Capital Reserves, or to go in-camera, Mrs. Hill stated her intent was to deal with both General and Elementary/Secondary items, to be followed by in-camera discussion, if requested.

Capital Reserves
Mr. Hicks asked for, and was advised by Mr. Shewfelt, the totals as of 1991 12 31 in three

Reserves: Gratuity, Dofasco Appeal and Capital Reserves. Noting the $2.8 million total within the Capital Reserves, it was

Moved by Mr. Hicks:

That $250,000 be removed from Capital Reserves.

Acknowledging that many may not agree with his direction, Mr. Hicks explained that his intent was to provide some relief to taxpayers through a reduced mill rate. Believing the motion regarding Adult Education teachers was not necessary, Mr. Hicks pointed to Personnel & Organization Committee reports on the number of teachers in relation to student enrolment which details decreasing student enrolment and excess numbers of teachers. He considered the officials' strategy of reducing these teachers and hiring on an "as needed" basis as a sound procedure.

Trustees Darby, Stewart and Orban expressed concern about using the Capital Reserve Fund. While Mr. Stewart deemed the Capital Reserves to be for renovations, Ms. Orban was particularly worried about future mountain expansion. Mr. Shewfelt responded that circumstances such as government capital funding or borrowing costs would also have an impact. Mr. Korz added that most projects are financed through debentures.

Trustees Allen and Rodgerson spoke in support of the motion. Mr. Shewfelt advised that approval of this motion would reduce the total mill rate by approximately $1.50 per household.

Citing the $930.59 in Education Taxes on the "average" home, Miss Cunningham expressed anger with trustees who minimize increases of "nickels and dimes" in view of the economy and job cuts. As a taxpayer she expressed concern about increased taxes; as a trustee she supported the motion.

The motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:
Other Considerations
Ontario Public School Boards Association
Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the Hamilton Board of Education renew its membership in OPSBA.

Mrs. Bishop urged trustees to support membership within this Association despite the high cost, stating our Board has no provincial voice. She outlined rationale for this expenditure as: strength in numbers, the information available through this Association and information for Collective Bargaining. She believes the Association will be involved in such provincial issues as province-wide bargaining with the Federations, gratuities, the property tax issue, unfair distribution of education costs on taxpayers and pooling. She concluded by noting the total cost of $70,331 does not include the legal fee, which is no longer compulsory.

Trustees Korz and Allen opposed this expenditure noting that "isolation" does not seem to have affected our Board. Mr. Allen noted that this Association did not persuade the government to lower taxes and questioned their ability to lobby effectively.

Mr. Stewart pointed out the following results "for a Board with no influence": a) that the legal defense fund is no longer compulsory, b) that this Board signed the lowest contract with teachers in December and c) that other Boards are also reviewing their membership.

Trustees Mason and Johnston spoke of their support for this organization, but not for membership during our present financial situation. Dr. Johnston spoke of the valuable information that the Salary Committee has gained in the past.

Ms. Wilson also opposed this expenditure, preferring the $70,000 be spent on enhancing the quality of education.

Mrs. Rodgerson commented on the lack of OPSBA support for the Peel Board in their recent stand against the Junior Kindergarten program.

The motion was put to a vote and was **LOST.**

Budget Format
Citing the need to identify individual program costs to effectively budget, it was

Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That the format of the budget for 1993 be completely revised.

While Mr. Korz agreed with Mrs. Bishop's direction, he questioned discussing this issue at length this evening and it was

Moved in amendment by Mr. Korz:

That this motion be referred to the next meeting of the Budget Review Committee for debate.

Trustees Lowe and Cunningham argued against the need for a motion of any kind, based on previous discussions about a revised budget format through the implementation of the Financial Information System which would result in better program identification and more accountability.

After Mrs. Hill cautioned that defeat of this motion could tie the hands of the officials relative to implementation of budget revisions, Mrs. Bishop and Mr. Korz agreed to withdraw their motions.

Withdrawal of the referral motion was put to a vote and **CARRIED.**
Withdrawal of the motion was put to a vote and **CARRIED.**

Understanding Mrs. Bishop's frustration, Mr. Hicks drew attention to the positive modifications already made to the budget process and proposed changes to the committee structure relating to the budget process.

Adoption of Estimates
This item was not dealt with until budget discussions under Elementary/Secondary were concluded.

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES
Student Population, Upper and Lower City
As requested at a previous meeting, Mr. Stockwell provided the following enrolment breakdown as of 1991 09 30: Area 1 - 11,646, Area 3 - 10,591, Area 2 - 9,662, Area 4 - 8,517.

Educational Assistants - Junior Kindergarten Program
Moved by Mrs. Bishop:

That six Educational Assistants - Junior Kindergarten, withdrawn from the budget, be replaced in the budget at a cost of $165,000.

Mrs. Bishop expressed concern about the quality of this program if six Educational Assistants are removed. Stressing the young age of the children involved and the student ratio, she outlined areas requiring extra supervision of young children.

Believing Mrs. Bishop was addressing information contained in green pages, Mr. Allen advised the Chair of his intent to raise two items to be addressed.

Mrs. Hill agreed to take his request into consideration when the meeting adjourned in-camera, however, as Mr. Stewart had objected in the past to the subject of Educational Assistants and the 11 Adult Education teachers being discussed in-camera, she explained they were at the public meeting.

Mr. Shewfelt verified that the $165,000 was an annualized figure, the impact this year from September onward would be $66,000 with the addition of the six Educational Assistants.

Mr. Stockwell explained that the reduction of these six Educational Assistants would be a matter of assessing enrolment for September and choosing the six smallest classes, excluding those within compensatory schools.

Ms. Orban remarked it was her understanding that there was a Pupil-Teacher Ratio in place.

In conclusion, Mrs. Bishop reminded the members that five Educational Assistants were removed from last year's budget and were replaced within a few months.

The motion was put to a vote and was **LOST.**

At this time, Mrs. Hill advised that, arising from discussions with Mr. Allen and Mr. Darby, she was going to rule two of their items as public business unless challenged.

Administrative Assistants
Mr. Darby asked for clarification about the recommended increase in the number of Administrative Assistants in secondary schools and whether this was because of the decrease in secretaries.

Mr. Stockwell agreed these issues were linked with the original intent being to twin Administrative Assistants in all schools.

At this point it was

Moved by Miss Cunningham:

That this item be discussed in-camera. **CARRIED.**

When Mr. Stewart, referring to the Education Act, asked the criteria for this to be discussed in-camera, Mrs. Hill ruled it was the decision of the Board by democratic vote.

Mrs. Lowe noted that people are attached to these positions and therefore it is a personnel matter.

Community Schools
Moved by Mr. Allen:

That the Community School program continue to be staffed at the 1991 level.

Recalling the recent presentation regarding the Community Schools, Mr. Allen requested support for the continuation of this program and the services that it provides to this community. Mr. Allen commented that these schools have an active, progressive recreational and educational program for children and adults, providing opportunities for both social interaction and skills development. Co-ordination of the large number of volunteers was beyond the capabilities of a volunteer.

Stressing that the "free ride is over" financially and the need for all areas within the Board to be more efficient, Mr. Stewart opposed the motion. He believed elimination of the one position would result in restructuring of this primarily volunteer-run program and that it would continue to be viable and successful.

Citing the results of Dr. Offord's project about reducing antisocial behaviour, Ms. Orban offered support for the motion on a one-year basis.

While not in agreement with the motion, Miss Cunningham was supportive of retaining one person in the position of Co-ordinator between the two schools.

Prior to the vote, Mrs. Hill advised a two-third's majority was required due to the defeat of a similar motion at an in-camera session.

The motion was put to a vote and was **LOST.**

Affirmative Action/Employment Equity
After a brief discussion with the Committee Chairman about whether the position of Affirmative Action/Employment Equity officer had budgetary implications, Dr. Johnston advised that he preferred raising this subject at Board rather than at this meeting.

Other Considerations
Trustees Wilson and Hicks indicated they had in-camera items for discussion.

Moved by Mr. Korz:

That this meeting move into an in-camera session.

Mr. Allen clarified that a public session would reconvene following the in-camera session.

The motion was put to a vote and was **CARRIED.**

GENERAL

Adoption of the Estimates:
When the public meeting resumed, it was

Moved by Mr. Stewart:

That Lines 1 and 2 of General Business of the 1992 Budget in the amount of $36,135,733 be approved, and that the Superintendent of Finance and Treasurer be authorized to proceed with the expenditure of funds as detailed therein.

Trustees Allen, Rogers, Darby, Wilson, Mulholland and Lowe declared a conflict of interest and did not vote.

The motion was put to a vote and **CARRIED.**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

Adoption of the Estimates:
Moved by Dr. Johnston:

That Lines 1 and 2 of Elementary/Secondary Business of the 1992 Budget in the amount of $190,824,948 be approved, and that the Superintendent of Finance and Treasurer be authorized to proceed with the expenditure of funds as detailed therein.

Trustees Allen, Rogers, Darby and Wilson declared a conflict of interest and did not vote.

The motion was put to a vote and **CARRIED.**

GENERAL

Adoption of the Estimates:
Moved by Canon Rogers:

That Lines 3 to 20 of General Business of the 1992 Budget in the amount of $34,628,338 be approved and that the Superintendent of Finance and Treasurer be authorized to proceed with the expenditure of funds as detailed therein. **CARRIED.**

ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

Adoption of the Estimates:
Moved by Mrs. Lowe:

That Lines 3 to 20 of Elementary/Secondary Business of the 1992 Budget in the amount of $12,832,368 be approved and that the Superintendent of Finance and Treasurer be authorized to proceed with the expenditure of funds as detailed therein. **CARRIED.**

In a closing statement, Mr. Shewfelt indicated that decisions tonight had increased expenditures by $257,232 and Revenues had increased by $250,000. The revised Mill Rate of 4.69% represents an increase of $41.66 to $930.59. Mr. Shewfelt briefly outlined budget mill rates of other Boards in the range of five percent to nine percent.

As a new trustee, Ms. Wilson remarked that the budget had been a growing experience for her and commented on her colleagues' dedication before commending Mrs. Hill's fair and just manner as Chairman of the Committee.

The meeting then adjourned.

Read and confirmed,

.....
Chairman

cv

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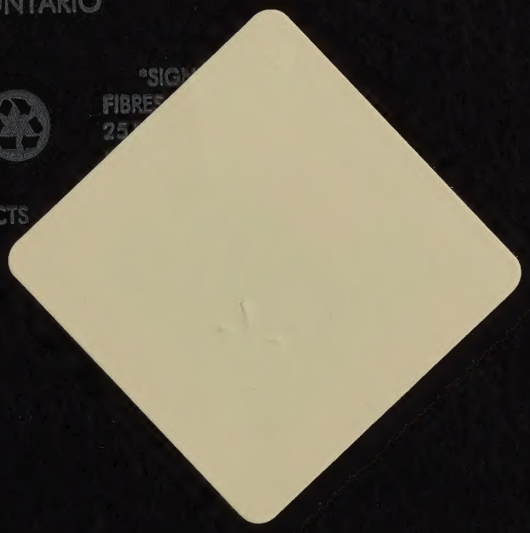

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